



# ATF News

**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Los Angeles Field Division**

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## **ATF LOS ANGELES CELEBRATES COMPLETION OF FIRST CITIZENS' ACADEMY**

LOS ANGELES – Fourteen students have graduated from the first annual ATF Citizens' Academy hosted by the Los Angeles Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

John A. Torres, Special Agent in Charge of ATF Los Angeles, emphasized at the Nov. 3 graduation ceremony that the academy's goal is to create a greater understanding of ATF's role in the community through open discussion.

"Building relationships and understanding between ATF and the community help citizens make their communities a better and safer place," Torres said.

The Citizens' Academy is open to 20 students and will be offered twice a year. Students must be a civic, religious or community leader, at least 21 years old, have no prior felony convictions, and live or work within the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Field Division. Course curriculum includes ATF's history, mission, jurisdiction, explosives detection canine program, certified fire investigator program, certified explosives specialist program, ATF laboratory services, Special Response Team program, industry operations functions, firearms familiarization and programs available at the Southern California Regional Crime Gun Center.

The next Los Angeles Field Division Citizens' Academy is scheduled for the spring of 2007.

For additional information, please contact the Los Angeles Field Division at (213) 534-2450. More information on ATF and its programs is at [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov).

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